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Do the Write Thing Essay, 2015

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I was in my room thinking and being bored when all of a sudden I hear a knock on the door. I opened the door to see no one I looked around no one. That's kind of creepy. When I was about to close it someone popped up and scared the life out of me, I stumbled back.

He started laughing, and tried to get some words out, and he managed to.

"Do you want to go to the store with me and my sister?"

"Sure, let me go ask my mom." I replied

I asked her and she said yes, but to not be back too late. I slipped on my coat and boots, as did the others.

We headed out the door and were on our way. We were going to Walgreens and it was now 6:45pm. It didn't seem like we were near the store so I nudged my cousin and asked him where we were . He didn't know and that's when I started to get worried. Neither of us have a phone with us and we don't know where we're going. This had to be a nightmare, I pinched myself several times. Nothing.

We were looking for Walgreens when I saw a big group of people in the distance. I spotted Walgreens far out and we started walking toward there. The group of people were heading our way and I noticed it was all boys and to me it started looking like a gang. This can't be good.

The gang of boys started to appear closer to us and closer when I realized they were only a few feet away from us. My palms started to sweat. Then I kept walking and we just past them, no bad things happened, I was relieved. 5 minutes later into walking and talking, I heard a gunshot. This can't be happening right? I'm so paranoid, I thought in my head. I looked around. I then saw a guy on the ground with lots of blood gushing out of his stomach. I was too frightened to say anything or to move. I heard the gang of boys laughing from a distance away.

[REDACTED]



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When I looked there way they were already gone. Next thing I know the ambulance is here, the police are asking me questions, and I'm standing there like an idiot.

I didn't know what to say, I had no words. This was the most tragic thing that's ever happened in my lifetime. Even if i didn't know the guy. After the cop realized I couldn't speak, he just left me standing there. I looked around for my cousins but they were no where to be seen. They weren't in site, so I decided to make my way to Walgreens. I saw them paying for their things. I waited outside of Walgreens for them.

I waited 5 minutes, 10 minutes, 15 minutes and I started to think, this is ridiculous. I peeked my head in Walgreens to see a tall boy putting his gun up to a policeman. I panicked, what do i do? What if he used my cousins for hostages? I'm beyond scared right now. One lady in the corner was calling someone, hopefully the cops. The tall boy ran so far, really far but a police caught him and 6 other boys in a group. The same I saw earlier today. The gang. I'm so glad they caught them, after shooting a poor old man and about to shoplift Walgreens. I felt a huge weight lift off of my shoulders. Today was the most frightening, scariest, creepiest day of my life. I pinched myself one last time just in case it was a dream but it wasn't.

After that day I've been in my house non stop because i was too scared to go outside, but I eventually got over it. This story was about poor family environment, bad neighborhoods, and gang violence. I think I learned some things on my trip to Walgreens, 1. Learn safe routes for walking in bad neighborhoods, if I see a gang get away as fast as possible 2. Trust my feelings if I sense danger to get away fast. 3. Don't go anywhere without a car. I think if we tried hard enough we could prevent youth violence.

